

Recommendations for Converting from Insulin Lispro to Insulin Aspart

1. All patients who are to be newly started on a short-acting insulin analog should receive insulin aspart (Novolog).
2. Efficacy and tolerability of insulin aspart is similar to insulin lispro. Any differences between the 2 products are small and should not be of consequence for most patients.
 - For those patients currently receiving insulin lispro, the majority can be switched to insulin aspart
 - Patients who might not be considered good candidates for switching are those using an insulin pump approved for use with lispro only and rare patients who do not tolerate insulin aspart
 - Any switches from insulin lispro to insulin aspart should be made in cooperation with the patient's principal diabetes care provider
 - Patients may be switched unit-for-unit from insulin lispro to insulin aspart. A dosage adjustment may be necessary when switching between the pre-mixed products since insulin aspart is available as a 70/30 mix and insulin lispro as a 75/25 mix.
 - Patients may be asked to self monitor post-prandial glucose more frequently during the conversion
3. Please note that currently on the National Formulary, the short-acting insulin analogs are listed generically as the class and that VISNs must select at least one product for their VISN formularies. Contract requirements will cause a change in the National Formulary listing. The short acting insulin will be listed as insulin aspart on the National Formulary and VISNs can no longer list insulin lispro on their VISN formularies. Insulin lispro must be made available through the nonformulary process.

The following table lists the number of unique patients receiving insulin lispro during Q4FY04.

Q4FY04

VA Product	Unique Patients
INSULIN,LISPRO,HUMAN 100 UNIT/ML INJ,CARTRIDGE,3ML	14
INSULIN,LISPRO,HUMAN 100 UNT/ML INJ,CARTRIDGE,1.5ML	35
INSULIN,LISPRO,HUMAN 100 UNT/ML INJ,CARTRIDGE,3ML	2
INSULIN,LISPRO,HUMAN 100 UNT/ML INJ,HUMALOG	10,277
INSULIN,LISPRO,HUMAN 100 UNT/ML INJ,PEN,3ML	262
INSULIN,LISPRO,HUMAN 75/25 INJ,HUMALOG	510
INSULIN,LISPRO,HUMAN 75/25 INJ,PEN,3ML	73
Total*	11,095

* Less than sum of individual products due to overlap